GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3808
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL WASTE
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;RAMDAS ATHAWALE;SHYAMA SINGH;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL);V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee to resolve the deadlock between the Government and the private hospitals over the use of incinerators for proper disposal of hospital waste;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the hospitals are not using incinerators for the disposal of medical waste due to which infectious diseases such as Hepatitis-B, TB and AIDS etc. have been spreading;

(d) if so, the details thereof, hospital-wise;

(e) whether the Government would make the use of incinerators mandatory for hospitals to check spread of diseases; and

(f) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)&(b) The Government is not aware of any deadlock between the Central Government and private hospitals over the use of incinerators for proper disposal of hospital waste.

(c)&(d): All Central Government hospitals are using incinerators for the disposal of bio-medical waste.

(e)&(f): There is no proposal to make the use of incineraton mandatory for hospitals. The Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, gives various options for management and disposal of hospital wastes. The hospitals are free to chose the disposal methods including use of incinerators.